

## Concepts that Living in Poverty Teaches

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- *Success* – Generally unattainable, limited to people who have a lot of luck
- *Failure* – Inevitable, no hope to overcome inherent deficiencies
- *Job* – Does not pay in respect or a living wage; takes you away from your family
- *Emotions* – Emotions are made to be expressed, publicly or privately
- *Future* – Difficult and painful to envision, so live for now
- *Money* – To be used before it gets away, not enough anyway
- *Police* – Hurt people, the enemy, unfriendly, out to get us and should be avoided
- *Education* – For “those” people, not people like me, takes you away from your family and causes additional stresses because you don’t have the status symbols to belong (right clothes, shoes, food, car, house, etc.)
- *Teachers* – The enemy, don’t like people like me, make me feel unwanted, not cared about and stupid because I don’t know things that others seem to have mastered
- *Health care* – Non-existent, if very sick go to emergency room, share prescription medicine, glasses, remedies
- *Doctors* – Stay away and they can’t tell you bad news, not seen as advocates or caring, are seen as “knowing everything”
- *Dentist* – Fear people we know don’t go to the dentist, when they do go, tremendous hassle to find access and then a great deal of pain, brushing and flossing are some rules “those” people made up, won’t help me, other things more pressing than my teeth
- *Nutrition & Exercise* – Not words we use, for people who have too much time and money on their hands, whatever is going to happen to your body will happen no matter what you do
- *Fate* – Life happens, you have no power to change it, only to react to it